



S/N 09/114,015

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Scott A. Johansen et al. Examiner: S. Gravini
Serial No.: 09/114,015 Group Art Unit: 3744
Filed: 07/10/98 Docket No.: 163.1247US01
Title: REMOVAL OF HEAT AND WATER VAPOR FROM COMMERCIAL
DISHWASHING MACHINES

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The Examiner has asserted a restriction of the claims to Group I, claims 10–10, drawn to a method of drying and Group II, claims 11–18, drawn to apparatus for drying. Applicants elect, with traverse, Group II, claims 11–18. The basis for the Examiner's restriction is as follows:

In this case, the independently claimed method of energizing a flow of water from a water spray within a housing to create a zone of reduced pressure in the housing in fluid communication between the machine interior and the housing along with the feature of the reduced pressure introducing fresh atmosphere into the machine while removing the heated atmosphere is not found in the independently claimed apparatus. The independently claimed apparatus recites at least one inlet, at least one conduit, a water jet, the spray nozzle, a machine enclosure, and a housing.

The Examiner's position appears to be incorrect to Applicants. Both independent sets of claims recite a water jet that forms a zone of reduced pressure that removes heated steam/atmosphere

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from the interior of the machine. This commonality demonstrates the unity of invention of both sets of claims. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the restriction Action.

Respectfully submitted,

2/6/99

Date


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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on October 7, 1999.

By: Mark DiPietro
Mark DiPietro



Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Response to Restriction Requirement
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

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